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1962/10/22

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INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

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Control: 16968
Rec'd: OCTOBER 23, 1962
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Info

FROM: MEXICO CITY

TO: Secretary of State

Eyes only

REVIEW

NO: 1342, OCTOBER 22, MIDNIGHT

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NIACT.

ELITE EYES ONLY

Date: 2/10/92

ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER GOROSTIZA TOLD ME AT 11:00 P.M. MEXICO CITY TIME, OCTOBER 22 THAT HE HAD BEEN ABLE TO SPEAK WITH FOREIGN MINISTER TELLO VERY BRIEFLY BY LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE AS TELLO WAS BOARDING PLANE TO LEAVE MANILA. TELLO TOLD HIM AMERICAN EMBASSY, MANILA HAD BEEN UNABLE TO SUPPLY COPY OF US DRAFT RESOLUTION TO BE PRESENTED TO PROVISIONAL ORGAN OF CONSULTATION ON OCTOBER 23.

GOROSTIZA SAID THAT HE DID NOT EXPECT INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN MINISTER UNTIL THEY HAD HAD OPPORTUNITY TO READ DRAFT RESOLUTION. IN ABSENCE OF INSTRUCTIONS, HE SAID HIS PRESENT INTENTION WAS TO INSTRUCT MEXICAN DELEGATE AT COUNCIL MEETING MORNING OCTOBER 23 TO VOTE FOR CONVOCAION OF ORGAN OF CONSULTATION. HOWEVER, HE DID NOT SEE HOW MEXICO COULD DO ANYTHING BUT ABSTAIN IF DRAFT RESOLUTION WAS VOTED ON IN ORGAN BEFORE HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS. ONLY PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN MINISTER, WHO HAVE NOT SEEN TEXT, COULD GIVE INSTRUCTIONS.

HE MENTIONED UP AND AP DESPATCHES DATED MANILA RE ALLEGED STATEMENTS BY LOPEZ MATEOS AND SAID HE HAD NO CONFIRMATION THEIR ACCURACY. HE KNEW TEXT IN OUR POSSESSION ATTRIBUTES TO LOPEZ MATEOS STATEMENT THAT MEXICO WOULD CHANGE ITS ATTITUDE CONCERNING CUBA IF CUBA ARMS ITSELF FOR OFFENSIVE PURPOSE ("CON PROPOSITOS OFENSIVOS"). AP DESPATCH CONTAINS SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR LANGUAGE.

WHILE THESE

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-2- 1342, OCTOBER 22, MIDNIGHT FROM MEXICO CITY

WHILE THESE TEXTS, IF ACCURATE, MAY SEEM ENCOURAGING, THEY SHOULD BE READ IN CONNECTION WITH GOROSTIZA'S EXPRESSION OF HIS PERSONAL AND UNOFFICIAL OPINION TO ME TONIGHT THAT MILITARY ACTION UNDER RIO TREATY WOULD BE JUSTIFIED ONLY IN CASE OF ARMED ATTACK. I POINTED OUT TO GOROSTIZA THAT RIO TREATY SPOKE OF TREAT TO PEACE AS WELL AS ACTUAL ARMED ATTACK AND ADDED THAT AT THIS STAGE OF EVENTS US PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT TAKE KINDLY TO JURIDICAL ARGUMENTS. I SAID THAT IN MY OPINION MEXICO HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE THE CAUSE OF WORLD PEACE BY PRESENTING A UNIFIED FRONT AND THAT A SPLIT IN THE OAS WOULD PRESENT MAXIMUM RISK THAT SOVIET UNION WOULD MISCALCULATE. THIS SEEMED TO IMPRESS GOROSTIZA.

WE SHALL TRY TONIGHT TO GET IN TOUCH BY TELEPHONE WITH POLAD/ CINCPAC IN HONOLULU AND IF HE DOES NOT ALREADY HAVE TEXT OF US DRAFT FOR OAS TO GET HIM TO TAKE IT DOWN AND DELIVER IT TO TELLO AND LOPEZ MATEOS WHEN THEY ARRIVE IN HONOLULU.

FINALLY, I WISH TO SUGGEST DEPARTMENT CONSIDER NOT (REPEAT NOT) CALLING FOR VOTE ON US RESOLUTION UNTIL AFTERNOON OF OCTOBER 23, AND POSSIBLY MORNING OF OCTOBER 24 SO AS TO GIVE MEXICANS CHANCE TO CONSULT BETWEEN THEMSELVES. GOROSTIZA ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO TIMING OF VOTE. HE WAS UNABLE CONFIRM RUMOR LOPEZ MATEOS CANCELLING HIS STOP-OVER IN HAWAII AND WOULD ARRIVE HERE TOMORROW. I CANNOT GUARANTEE HOWEVER MEXICANS WOULD NOT USE TIME TO WORK AGAINST US WITH BRAZIL AND OTHERS.

OUR FIRST UNEVALUATED INFORMATION IS THAT THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH WAS WELL RECEIVED BY MEXICAN PUBLIC. WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO MAKE BETTER APPRAISAL TOMORROW.

SUBSTANCE CIRCULARS 714, 715 HAVE BEEN CONVEYED TO GOROSTIZA.

MANN

SJR

Note: Advance copies S/S 10/23/CHO-JRL.

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